January 7, 1836.

FRANCIS BAILY, Esq., Vice-President and Treasurer, in the Chair.

A paper was read, entitled, "Meteorological Journal kept at the Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope, from the 1st of June to the 31st of December, 1834." Communicated by Capt. Beaufort, R.N., F.R.S., Hydrographer to the Admiralty.

The observations recorded in this Journal are those of the barometer, and of two thermometers, one in, and the other out of doors; taken at sunrise, noon, sunset, and midnight, in each successive day from the 1st of June, 1834, to the end of the year.

"Some Account of the Volcanic Eruption of Cosiguina in the Bay of Fonseca, commonly called the Coast of Conchagua, on the Western Coast of Central America." By Alexander Caldcleugh, Esq., F.R.S.

The particulars recorded in this narrative are derived partly from a voluminous collection of official reports transmitted from the authorities in various towns to the government of Central America, and partly from the information of intelligent eye-witnesses of the phenomena. The eruption occurred on the 19th of January, 1835, and was preceded by a slight noise, accompanied with a column of smoke issuing from the mountain, and increasing till it took the form of a large and dense cloud, which, when viewed from a distance of ten leagues to the southward, appeared like an immense plume of white feathers, rising with considerable velocity and expanding in every direction. Its colour was, at first, of the most brilliant white; but it gradually became tinged with grey; then passed into yellow; and finally assumed a beautiful crimson hue. In the course of the following days several shocks of an earthquake were felt, the last of which were most terrific. On the morning of the 22nd, the sun had risen in brightness; but a line of intense darkness denoted the presence of the same cloud which had before presented such remarkable appearances, and which, extending with great rapidity, soon obscured the light of day; so that in the course of half an hour the darkness equalled in intensity that of the most clouded night: persons touched without seeing one another; the cattle hurried back to their folds; and the fowls went to roost, as on the approach of night. This atmospheric darkness continued with scarcely any diminution for three days; during the whole of which time there fell a fine impalpable dust, covering the ground at St. Antonio to the depth of two inches and a half, and consisting of three layers of different shades of grey colour: and for ten or twelve succeeding days the sky exhibited a dim and murky light. At Nacaome, to the northward of the volcano, the same degree of darkness was experienced, and the deposit of ashes was from four to five inches in depth, and exhaled a fetid sulphureous odour, which penetrated through every interstice in the buildings. The complete obscurity